

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 25, 26 and 31-38 are currently pending. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 25 and 36 are amended without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce the unamended claims in this or another application. Claims 25, 26 and 31-38 thus remain pending following entry of this amendment.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 26 and 36 would be allowable if written in independent form, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103

Claims 25, 31-35, 37 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over International Publication No. WO 97/10365 to Lockhart et al. ("Lockhart") and US Patent No. 6,110,666 to Grosveld et al. ("Grosveld"). These claims are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,580,722 to Foulkes et al. ("Foulkes") and Illustrated Dictionary of Immunology, 1995, pages 56 and 59, to Cruse et al. ("Cruse").

Without acquiescing to these rejections, Applicants have amended claim 25 to include the elements of claim 26 to advance prosecution of important subject matter. As noted above, the Examiner has indicated that such a claim is allowable.

In view of this amendment, Applicants submit that the currently pending claims are in allowable form.

Appl. No. 09/747,760
Amdt. dated December 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action of July 13, 2004

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Ausenhus", written over a horizontal line.

Scott L. Ausenhus
Reg. No. 42,271

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 303-571-4000
Fax: 415-576-0300
SLA:sla
60282886 v1